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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.:

09/912,049

Examiner: Irene Marx

Filing Date: July 24, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1615

Inventors:

Rehberger et al.

Title: Direct-Fed Microbial

RESPONSE

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the restriction requirement mailed September 26, 2002, applicants elect the invention of Group II, claims 3-9, without traverse. A preliminary amendment is submitted herewith adding additional claims, to round out the scope of coverage sought by applicant.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 43,599

Dated: October 22, 2002

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